

Residents, officials ready to 'clean sweep' city

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

To celebrate the conclusion of another cold and snowy Michigan winter, Romulus officials have designated this week as "Spring Clean Up Week" and are urging residents to get involved in the cleaning activities.

"Spring is the season of renewal. Clean Sweep activities in Romulus give us a chance to renew our commitment to improving Romulus," Mayor Alan Lambert said. "It's a great way to get out in the fresh air and say hello to our neighbors while we all clean up the community together."

The first event on the Clean Sweep calendar of events is a pancake breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday at

Romulus High School. All proceeds from the event, sponsored by the Romulus Professional Firefighters Local 4126, will go to benefit the Friends of the Romulus Animal Shelter. Admission price is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. Children 5 and under eat free. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus Fire Station 1, 37230 Northline Road or Romulus Fire Station 2 at 7221 Middlebelt Road.

After fueling up with pancakes for the day, Romulus residents can move on to the next event, the annual clean-up day.

Clean Sweep, one of the major events planned for this week, will begin at 9 a.m. May 22 at Romulus City Hall. Residents will enjoy refreshments and then be divided

into groups and get to work cleaning up the city.

Groups will head out to the downtown area, as well as major entry points to the city, to clean up for spring.

Another event is a city-wide yard sale, which will take place from May 20 - 23.

This is the one time a year residents will not be required to pay a permit fee for a rummage sale. Applications for free permits are available at the Recreation Center located on Bibbins Road.

During this clean up week, residents will also be able to throw away items at the Department of Public Works (DPW) on Wayne Road at no charge.

However, residents must follow the guidelines.

See **Clean**, page 3



Book 'em

Wick Elementary students were selected by the First National Book Bank of Washington D.C. to receive two free books each to the surprise of principal Debbie Juriga. Later she found out that Art Van Furniture, a local sponsor of the book bank, selected various Title One schools from around the country to receive the complimentary books.

School board president announces re-election bid

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Betty Lenossi, an eight-year veteran of the Romulus Board of Education, said she is seeking re-election because she wants to continue the success of the school system, despite the funding cutbacks from the state.

"I want to be here for the next four years to make sure that our school system maintains the level of quality residents have now come to expect in this city," said Lenossi. "We are about to hit a bumpy road and I want to make sure that we come out of it unharmed."

Lenossi, a 40-year resident of Romulus, is the current president of the school board, a title in which she said she has taken pride.

"I have truly enjoyed being on the school board for the last eight years," she said. "It has been wonderful to work with the students, teachers and employees of the Romulus schools. I take a lot of pride in the work we have done for our schools."

Running for the school board is something that Lenossi said she long wanted to do, but could not because she was a school employee. She was a bus driver for the Romulus schools for 29 years.

"After I retired from the school system, some people asked me if I was going to run for school board and truthfully I hadn't even thought about it, because I had been ineligible for so many years," she said. "But in the end I decided that it was something I wanted to do."

Lenossi said she is proud to be affiliated with the Romulus schools and is even more proud of all that the schools have accomplished in a relatively short period of time.

"We have been able to do so

much for our schools in Romulus," she said. "Everything from working so hard to get the pool at the high school to greatly improving the technology at all of the schools."

Lenossi said the biggest challenge facing the school system is the funding cutbacks coming from the state in the next two years.

"We are about to go through some hard times in this city, because of the state," she said. "We are going to have to be very careful when deciding how to deal with the cuts, because I do not want to cut any of the kids' programs at all. Some hard decisions are going to have to be made and I want to be here to help make them."

Lenossi said the strength of the schools is the preparedness given to every student that walks through the doors.

"We prepare our students for every situation," she said. "Our vocational programs are so good that a student graduating from high school who does not want to go to college has the ability to get a good paying job, just from the training they received in school. At the same time, college bound students receive the education they will need to be successful. We have so much to offer every student."

Lenossi is one of four candidates seeking two seats on the school board. The others are Thomas Kuderik, Leo Knasiak Jr. and Dennis Lubas.

The school election is June 14.



Betty Lenossi

New Metro Airport chief pledges improved service

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Dave Harvey, the newly appointed chief of police at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, said he is trying to make a difference at the 10th largest airport in the country. And that is not an easy task.

"It is hard when a lot of people don't even realize that we have our own police force," said Harvey. "Most people think that we are the Wayne County Sheriff but we are trying to change that."

Harvey, a 23-year veteran of the Garden City Police Department, took the job because he said he thought it would be a challenge.

"I was nearing retirement in Garden City, but I was not ready to get out of the business," said Harvey. "I was ready for a larger

department, something that would bring a challenge, and I found that here."

Harvey was the chief of police in Garden City for four years, so

"It is hard when a lot of people don't even realize that we have our own police force."

Dave Harvey

he said that he had the experience to come to the airport police force, but there are a few things that are different.

"In Garden City I had about 40

officers," said Harvey. "Here I have about four times that number. So that has been a big difference."

Harvey said the largest change has come with the number of different agencies involved with security at the airport.

However, Harvey said that the communications between the different agencies is crucial in keeping passengers safe and being prepared for anything that may happen.

"Being prepared for the worst, like what we all saw on Sept. 11 is so important right now," he said. "We are doing everything we can to keep our officers on top of things to avoid something like that happening again."

"Like most of America, I think

See **Airport**, page 3

Firefighters 'fish up' \$1,000 for burn center

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Give a man a fish, he'll eat for a day. Teach a man to fish, he'll eat for a lifetime.

The adage rings true for area firefighters who took to the shores of the Detroit River for the annual "Smoke on the Water" event. The competition is a benefit for the burn center at Detroit Receiving Hospital. The event generated more than \$1,000.

The Inkster Fire Department dealt the Detroit Fire Department a major upset when it took home the trophy for catching the highest volume of fish during the event two weeks ago. The victory marked the first time Detroit did not take home the coveted prize.

Three boats, helmed by the "B shift," caught more fish – as measured by weight – than Detroit, Ann Arbor and several other area companies. The B shift includes Lt. Dwight Hines, Engineers Steve Dimovski and Chris Crawley, and Firefighters Tom Dillon, Jason Kaye and Ben Ferguson. Kaye's father, David Kaye, also took part in the event with the B-team.

Hines said he is proud the department was able to win the trophy, but that helping burn victims is the real reason the six men took part in the event.

"Because we're firefighters, we see the toll burns take on victims, and we wanted to help out," he said. "We know the burn centers are directly involved in helping these victims."

Kaye added, "It's important



Inkster Fire Department Engineers Steve Dimovski and Chris Crawley, Lt. Dwight Hines, and Firefighters Jason Kaye, Ben Ferguson Tom Dillon (kneeling) raised \$1,000 for the Detroit Receiving Hospital Burn Unit.

that we get out there and help people in the community."

The Detroit Receiving Hospital Burn Center is the largest adult burn care center in Michigan, according to the hospital web site. Each year, the newly remodeled center treats 300 patients in-house and another

500 on an outpatient basis.

The burn center is also engaged in research and development of new treatments that advance the quality of life for burn victims. The center is equipped with a hyperbaric chamber, a skin bank and a full laboratory. A substantial amount

of the equipment and services were purchased with funds from events like Smoke on the Water.

Kaye said he believes the department will take part in the event next year. "We all fish together anyway on our days off. It was a lot of fun."

Area police plan holiday seat belt law enforcement

Scott Spielman
Editor

"Increased seat belt use directly translates to fewer traffic deaths and injuries," said Michael Prince, division director of the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.

He said more than 39 law enforcement agencies in Wayne County will join with departments across the state beginning Monday, May 24 and ending June 6 as travelers prepare to take to the highways for Memorial Day Weekend.

All together, more than 500 departments across the state will

be on the lookout for motorists who aren't using their seat belts, which they will enforce with a zero tolerance policy.

Many departments will set up safety belt enforcement zones with portable signs that alert motorists when they enter an enforcement area, Prince said.

"Enforcement zones have made a tremendous difference in safety belt use in Michigan," he said. "(They) have been so successful that we will continue to expand and institutionalize them to keep Michigan's safety belt use on the rise."

Participating departments

include Inkster, Plymouth Township, Romulus, Van Buren Township and Wayne, according to Prince.

"We'll have guys out on special patrols to try to ensure everyone has a safe, happy holiday," said Lt. Tom Miller of the Wayne Police Department. "We're going to look to younger drivers because they are the biggest offenders."

Sgt. Steve Rapson from the Plymouth Township Police Department said the special

enforcement zones and the crack down on young drivers are the only way to make the message hold.

"The only proven way to get significant increases in safety belt use among young people – and ultimately save lives – is through high visibility enforcement, including targeting advertising to alert people to the enforcement,"

he said.

Miller said the violation would result in a \$65 fine, but no points on licenses, because it is not a moving violation. Drivers could be ticketed if their passengers are not buckled in, too.

"If you're an adult and you have a child in your car that is not strapped in, you'll also get that ticket," Miller said.

CITY OF ROMULUS T.I.F.A. DISTRICT II, REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS MDOT MERRIMAN RD. ENHANCEMENT PROJECT-PHASE II, LANDSCAPING BID

Tax Increment Finance Authority, District 11 of the City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above service.

- (1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by Grissm Metz Andriese Associates, Inc., 300 E. Cady St, Northville, MI 48167 on or after May 18th 2004 upon deposit of \$20.00, which is non-refundable.
- (2) Proposals must be submitted on forms furnished by Landscape Architect and be accompanied by Bid Bond or Certified Check in the amount of five (5%) of Proposal submitted. Please call (248) 347-7010 before picking up plans and specifications.
- (3) Project work to consist of Site Development including:
 1. Landscaping along the Merriman Road right-of-way between I-94 and Ecorse Road, on either side of the road and in the median. Work to be performed includes planting of trees, shrubs, ground cover, flowers and sodded lawn
 - Anticipated Construction Start Date: July 1, 2004
 - Substantial Completion Date: November 1, 2004
- (4) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerks Office no later than 2:00pm, Thursday, June 10, 2004. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

CITY OF ROMULUS CLERKS OFFICE
MDOT MERRIMAN RD ENHANCEMENT
PROJECT-PHASE II, LANDSCAPING BID
11111 Wayne Road,
Romulus, Michigan 48174

(3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: May 20, 2004
May 27, 2004
June 03, 2004

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Spaghetti dinner planned to defray medical bills

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

The family of 5-year-old Marc Grant needs a little more help from their friends.

Marc is the son of Michael Grant, a Romulus police officer and Jeannine Grant. Marc has a rare duplication on the short arm chromosome 17, a large region encompassing more than 30 genes.

Neighbors, friends and co-workers have helped the Grant family fund many of the expenses treatments, surgeries and consultations necessary for Marc's care by organizing fundraisers and soliciting donations.

But it hasn't been enough. Earlier this year, doctors at Loma Linda University in Texas found a previously undetected severe condition in Marc's heart. He underwent a 12-hour open-heart surgery at the University of Michigan Children's Hospital to replace part of his aorta in late February. Without the surgery, he could have died, his parents said.

2. Motivated by all the help we have received from everyone in the community, the City of Romulus is asking the Romulus Police Department to host a spaghetti dinner to help defray mounting medical bills. The family will host a spaghetti dinner from 6-10 p.m. on May 28 at the UAW Local 900 in Wayne.

3B. Summary: Community meeting from 6-8 p.m. at the Public Pentecostal Church.

Roll Call: Nays - None. Motion - Carry.

4A. Meeting: Meeting will be held at the Auditorium on May 28.



Marc Grant, the 5-year-old son of Romulus Police Ofc. Mike Grant and wife, Jeannine, has a rare condition that has caused severe health problems since birth. The Grants will host a spaghetti dinner to help defray mounting medical bills.

so many different people."

Today, the Grant family is again asking the Romulus community to come together to help raise money for Marc. The family will host a spaghetti dinner from 6-10 p.m. on May 28 at the UAW Local 900 in Wayne.

"We know that it is a lot to ask of people," said Grant. "But it is such a good cause and he is such a good little boy and with all the cuts in the state right now, we really need the help."

Grant said that due to state funding cuts, Marc has not been

able to receive therapy as often as he needs it because the family simply does not have the money.

"Because of the state cut-backs, Marc won't be eligible for the therapy until he is 6 years old," said Grant. "So, we are having to pay for his speech therapist and physical therapist out of our pocket. It is getting really hard."

Marc's medical problems seem to be getting progressively worse, said Grant.

At a recent visit, doctors found two holes in Marc's heart and a

new syring, a pocket of fluid, was again detected on his spine. Grant said that doctors might have to operate and relieve the pressure caused from the excess fluid; a procedure Marc has undergone previously.

"The doctors feel like there is something else going on in his body, but they are a little puzzled trying to figure it out," said Grant. "They are in the process of sending his blood samples to a doctor in Australia for review."

The family endured another shock during the recent visit to

John Hopkins University Hospital in Maryland. Doctors suggested the entire Grant family, including daughters, Megan, 11 and Michelle, 7, and son Michael Jr., 6 be tested for the type of heart defect found in Marc.

Two of the other three children have the same type of heart condition, Bicuspid Aortic Disease,

"We couldn't believe it," said Grant. "It was like we didn't think it could get any worse and it did."

Michelle was found to have the exact condition Marc has, but while Megan has the disease, it has not progressed as far as her brother and sister. However, both girls will at some point also have to undergo open-heart surgery to replace part of the aorta.

"They told us that if the disease had not been found, the girls would have died in their teen-age years," Jeannine Grant said. "That is a hard thing to hear about your children."

However, Grant said they are thankful that the condition was detected in time for something to be done.

Tickets for the spaghetti dinner can be purchased in advance at the Romulus Police Department for \$10. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

Donations can be addressed to: The Marc Grant Medical Fund, 38524 Canyon, Westland, MI 48186.

Clean

FROM PAGE 1

All items must be placed in bags, boxes or bundles for quick unloading. A driver's license or other proof of residency is required.

No more than three bulky items per household, such as furniture or freon-free appliances will be accepted.

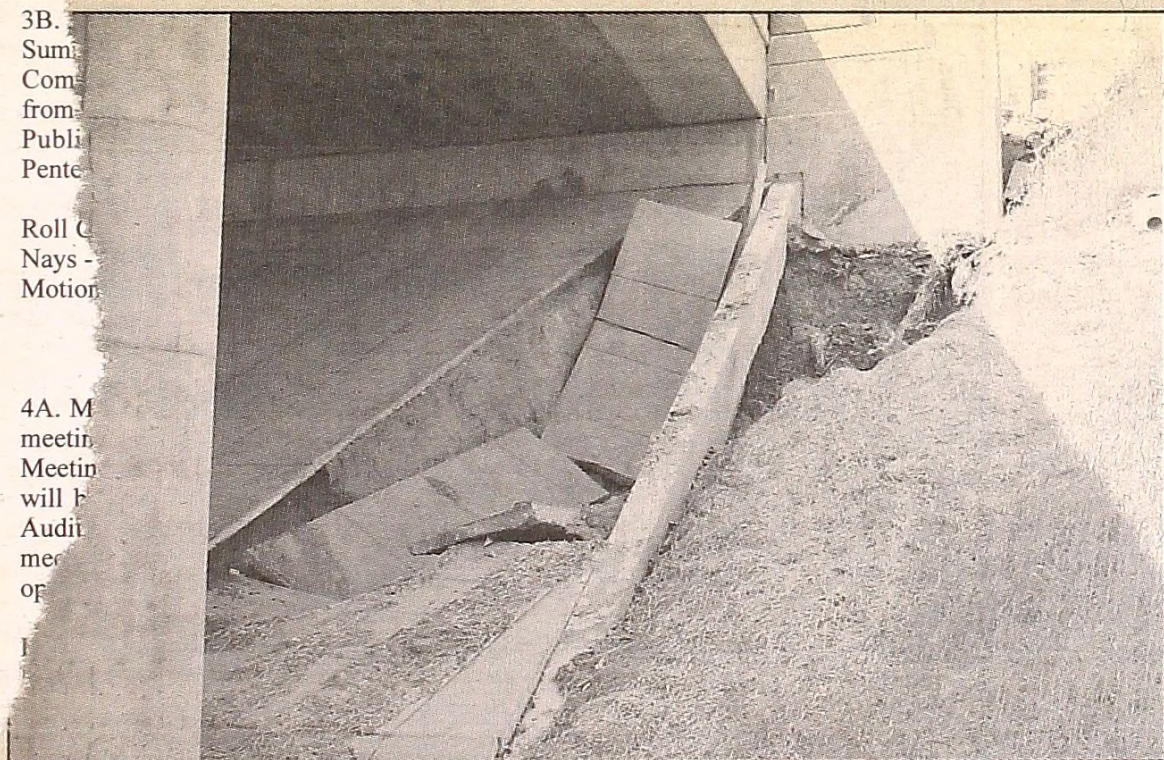
All refrigeration units must have a freon removal certification sticker and construction debris will be limited to one truckload (pick-up truck) per

household.

Residents are not allowed to place disposal items on DPW grounds. They must wait for assistance from assigned DPW personnel so that items are disposed of properly in one of the receptacles.

Items that will not be accepted include large car parts, stumps, poisons, liquid waste, herbicides, appliances containing freon, lawn removers, sod, batteries, hazardous waste, flammables, brush, dirt, paint, oil, anti-freeze, limbs, concrete, solvents, explosives and pesticides.

For more information call (734) 942-7579 and to volunteer call (734) 955-4503.



Crossing over

Romulus residents driving through the I-94 underpass on Shook road recently may have open their eyes a little wider after seeing that a number of the concrete blocks under the bridge had collapsed. Matt Chynoweth, the metro region bridge engineer for the Michigan Department of Transportation, said that the state is aware of the problem and that there are no structural problems with the bridge.

Democratic club offers residents cleaning solution

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

It is that time of year again. That's right it is time for spring cleaning.

And this year the Romulus Democratic Club (RDC) is offering residents a solution to one spring cleaning problem: What to do with unused but still serviceable house wares and furniture.

The RDC is asking residents

to head down to the Romulus City Hall parking lot from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. May 22 and 23 for a garage sale.

"Don't throw old items away," said Jack Trumbull, president of the RDC. "Donate them to a good cause."

That old chair that is never used, the lamp that hasn't been turned on in years or that old table collecting dust in the corner can all be donated to the garage sale to benefit the Friends of the Animal Shelter fund.

"Fifty percent of the proceeds are going to go to raise money for the new animal shelter," said Trumbull. "We feel that it is something that is important to the community and we wanted to help."

Trumbull said donated items will be sold throughout both days and can be dropped off at any time.

If items need to be picked up call Trumbull at (734) 323-9397 or (734) 710-9933.

Airport

FROM PAGE 1

we all had the attitude that it could never happen here," he said. "That attitude has now changed in the U.S. and we have to be ready for anything at any time. We take every incident seriously, because you never know when something may happen."

Harvey said next to preparedness, his goal is to improve the customer service of the police department, something that he said he views as integral for any department.

Community policing is the way policing should be done throughout police work all together, he said.

"Visitors to the airport have to know and be confident that we are here to help people solve problems," he said. "That is our job."



Dave Harvey

Harvey said he is also striving to build an identity for the officers in his department.

"A lot of other agencies get credit for the work we do," he said. "I am not saying that we need the glory or anything like that, but it is good for our officers to get credit for the hard work they do in and around the airport every day. It gives them pride in their agency."

Former state legislator to seek county office

Scott Spielman and Andrea King
Staff Writers

Canton Township resident Gerald Law said he wants to see more consideration to outer township issues from the Wayne County Commission.

That's why Law, a former state legislator and Plymouth Township trustee, said he has thrown his hat into the race for the 11th District County Commission seat. He will oppose incumbent John Sullivan of Wayne, the current vice-chairman of the commission, who is seeking his fourth term in office.

The 11th County Commission District serves the communities of Belleville, Sumpter Township, Van Buren Township, Canton and Wayne. Sullivan has served three consecutive terms.

Sullivan said that he is looking forward to continuing to fight for the citizens of western Wayne County.

"There have been a lot of changes in the county over the past few years and I look forward to continuing to fight for improved services for Wayne County residents," he said. "I feel that I have been working hard to earn the respect of both my colleagues and those who deal with the county on a regular basis," he added.

Law served on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees from 1978-1983 and as township supervisor from 1991-1992. He served two stints as a state representative - from 1983-1991 and again from 1995-2000. He was active in committees like Healthy Policy, Insurance, Judiciary and Family Services.

"I have no desire to use this as a springboard for anything else," Law said. "I'm not looking to climb up the food chain."

Law said he would be more vocal about and active in issues in western Wayne County, where townships are more dependent on Wayne County Services. He said he would use his existing relationships with township officials and his relationship with County Executive Bob Ficano to help get things accomplished.

"You've got to do things," he said. "It doesn't matter what party you're in. You've got to form some type of personal relationship."

Sullivan said that he has led efforts to make Wayne County more accessible and accountable to the people including the effort to revamp the airport noise mitigation. As a result, Wayne County Metro Airport hired a nationally recognized leader in the noise migration field to improve the services to the residents.

Recently, Sullivan sponsored legislation that was approved to waive county health inspection fees at churches and other non-profit organizations. In the past these fees have always been waived, he said, but a couple of months ago these organizations were being charged.

"These groups are going through hard times themselves," he said. "I did what I had to do to make sure that they did not have to pay these fees ever again."

Currently, Sullivan is working on a new ordinance to regulate waterways in Wayne County. It will increase safety patrols by the Wayne County Sheriff on Belleville Lake and the Detroit River, he said.

"Due to past budget problems, Belleville has not been able to have an officer on the lake," said

Sullivan. "This will be adopting the state law, making it a county law to have an officer out there full time. It will be the same officers patrolling, that way they will get to know the voters and make sure everyone is safe."

Sullivan said that more immediate plans include working to secure around \$4 million dollars in park improvements for the Wayne County communities. He said that \$2 million will go to Van Buren Township for a possible recreation center, \$1 million will go toward the Horizon Park lake project in Belleville and \$500,000 for Wayne improvements. The remaining funds will go to Canton Township.

According to Sullivan, he has been working on creating satellite offices for the county clerk, deeds and treasurer. If elected, he said that he will continue to push the plan forward.

"The project has been delayed because we are trying to find a new location," he said. "These offices will save people from driving downtown. I'm insisting that this will be included in this year's budget."

Law said that he, too, wants to make county offices more accessible and would push to get more of them online, so residents wouldn't have to commute at all for several minor services.

He also wants to upgrade, clarify and streamline and the county contract approval process and remove politics from it. Some contracts, he said, require 10 different departments to sign off on them - it's a more ponderous obstacle course than at the state level.

He also wants to get a county health service organized and operating, a concept already approved but stagnant. Law said that was due, largely, to inactivity from the current commission. That inactivity has also jeopardized the Wayne County juvenile justice system, the county mental health system and a health care plan for the poor.

He also wants to see some action on the Pentacle Project, a potential development on 25,000 acres of county-owned land between Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports.

"(Ficano) needs support to get this development off the ground," Law said. "It's important, not just for the budget, but for employment."

"A lot of this is inactivity from the county commission," he added. "They seem to be happy with the status quo."

Roads and road maintenance are a perennial topic of discussion, particularly in the suburban townships that make up the bulk of the 11th District, Law said. Road repairs are primarily county-funded.

Law said his experience with Canton Township - it made up half his state district when he was first in office - will help make him a better advocate for the majority of the district.

"They're all townships, and they have increased dependency on country services," Law said.



John Sullivan



Gerald Law

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL

**HELD MAY 3, 2004 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS
CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD,
ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Debbie Romak.

Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth.

Absent: None.

Excused: Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Alan Lambert, Mayor

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk

Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-201

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Miller, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held April 26, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Abstain - Crova.

Motion Carried.

3A. *Deleted.

04-202

3B. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to adopt a resolution proclaiming the Summer of 2004 as "Get Moving, Get Healthy" and to support the Pen Enrichment Community Center health fair and weigh in beginning Wednesday, May 12, 2004 from 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The health fair and weigh in will be held at the Romulus Public Library, 11121 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 and weigh in at Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church, 35625 Vinewood, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-203

4A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to re-schedule the regular council meeting of Monday, May 24, 2004 to Tuesday, May 25, 2004, due to a Town Hall Meeting on the EDS Injection Well. Sponsored by Senator Raymond Basham, which will be held on Monday, May 24, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the Romulus High School Auditorium, 9650 S. Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174. The purpose of the meeting is to update concerned resident about the status of EDS's application for its operating license from the MDEQ.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-204

4B. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Miller to appoint Debbie Lattner to the Environment, Protection Board, term to expire May 3, 2007.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-205

4C. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff pursuant to the recommendation of City Attorney Barry Seifinan and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute appropriate documents and Corporate Counsel will proceed with litigation as described and discussed in Executive Session in the matter of Goddard Road joint repair.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-206

4D. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Miller to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Fred Lorenz Sr., owner of Saw & Specialty Corp., for 30 years in the City of Romulus.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-207

5A1. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the resolution adopting the Municipal Employee's Retirement System of Michigan for full-time firefighters, and the resolution for defining a day of work or hours per month for MERS Retirement purposes.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-208

5A2. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to approve the resolution for adopting Municipal Employee's Retirement System of Michigan defined benefit program for fulltime firefighters.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-209

5B. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to concur with the Administration and authorize the Emergency Management Coordinator to submit an application to the State of Michigan for the Michigan Emergency Management Performance Grant and to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Agreement for FY 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-210

6A1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to approve Second Reading and Final Adoption of Budget Amendment 03/04-39 to appropriate additional funding to cover current budget deficit and to cover expenditures through June 30, 2004, introduced at the meeting held April 26, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-211

6B. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Prybyla to approve Second Reading and Final Adoption of budget Amendment 03/04-40 to appropriate additional funding to cover the final engineering costs to Wade-Trim for the Beverly Road project, introduced at the meeting held April 26, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Prybyla, Wadsworth.

Nays - Miller, Romak.

Motion Carried.

04-212

6A2. Motion by Miller, supported by Crova to concur with City Assessor, Julie Albert and allow Midwest Mortgage Investment, Inc., to redeem lots 86 and 87 also north 1/2 adjacent vacated alley; Grand Park Subdivision (parcel number 020 010086 300) in the amount of \$1,206.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A3. No Action

11. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Linda R. Chaote, CMC

City Clerk

Publish: May 20, 2004



Jacob Laginess

Student wins scholarship

Jacob Laginess of Belleville has been awarded an \$8,000 scholarship to a Lutheran college from Thrivent Financial.

Laginess is a graduate of Belleville High School. He is one of 1,750 graduating seniors to receive a Thrivent scholarship.

Park to receive \$2.7 million face lift

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Riggs Heritage Park in Van Buren Township will soon get a facelift.

The master plan for the 30-acre park will include more than \$2.7 million worth of improvements, according to Vincent Averill, Van Buren Township parks manager. The park is located on the corner of Huron River Drive and Martinsville Road.

Averill said that the master plan includes an amphitheater, pond, picnic sites, walking trails, a historical village and the restoration of the Riggs home.

"Basically, we want to have an agricultural area to show a different crop of activities," he said. "We are planning to hold events in the barn and bring people into the historical village. As of now, we have extra open space where people can do different outdoor events."

According to Averill, the land was donated by Crosswinds Communities Inc. of Novi, in

Basically, we want to have an agricultural area to show a different crop of activities.

Vincent Averill

exchange for permission to build more homes on the adjacent property near Martinsville and Savage roads. The land includes the historic Riggs home.

The master plan, a synthesis of ideas put together with public input, is used as a guide to help the project take shape, said Averill.

Park development will be done in phases, he said.

The first step is work on the 1867 Riggs

farmhouse. Possible use could include space for community groups or a park office.

"Right now we're working with a leading restorator, Richard Frank," he said. "He is helping us to create a bid proposal to have the house sealed off so it doesn't deteriorate. From there we hope to get going on the rest of the project as funding permits."

Funding for the project is also open for discussion, according to Averill. The \$2 million grant from Wayne County could be used and as well as other grant money. Funds from the parks budget will also be used.

Averill said the Belleville Rotary Club has also expressed an interest in helping fund the park improvements. At one point, the club offered to contribute \$150,000 to restore and maintain buildings. The project committee is scheduled to meet with the club sometime in June.

CITY OF ROMULUS

T.I.F.A. DISTRICT II

REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS

MERRIMAN ROAD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT-PHASE I SITE DEVELOPMENT

Tax Increment Finance Authority, District II of the City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above service

- (1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by Grissm Metz Andriese Associates, Inc., 300 E. Cady St., Northville, MI 48167 on or after May 18th, 2004 upon deposit of \$20.00, which is non-refundable.
- (2) Proposals must be submitted on forms furnished by Landscape Architect and be accompanied by Bid Bond or Certified Check in the amount of five (5%) of Proposal submitted. Please call (248) 347-7010 before picking up plans and specifications.
- (3) Project work to consist of Site Development including:
 1. Landscaping along the Merriman Road right-of-way between I-94 and Ecorse Road, on either side of the road and in the median. Work to be performed includes planting of trees, shrubs, ground cover, flowers and sodded lawn
 - Anticipated Construction Start Date: July 1, 2004
 - Substantial Completion Date: November 1, 2004
- (4) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00pm, Thursday, June 10, 2004. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

**CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE
MDOT MERRIMAN ROAD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT-PHASE
SITE DEVELOPMENT
11111 Wayne Road,
Romulus, Michigan**

- (5) Each bidder shall file a statement signed by, or on behalf of the person, firm, association, or corporation has not either directly or indirectly entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or other wise taken any action, in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the submitted bid.
- (6) Funds from the Federal Highway Transportation program will partially fund this project. Consequently, contractors and subcontractors are required to comply with Federal Labor Standard Provisions, Equal Opportunity Requirements and Davis-Bacon Wage Requirements.
- (7) The prime contractor shall meet the requirements of MDOT pre-qualification classification joint combination 355H. A letter from MDOT must accompany each bid confirming that the Bidder is prequalified by MDOT as of the bid opening date. Work by subcontractors shall not exceed 51% of the total contract.
- (8) The successful bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory Performance, Labor and Material Bonds in the amount of 100 percent of Contract, total cost of which to be paid by accepted Bidder.
- (9) Construction shall be in accordance with MDOT 2003 Standard Specifications, supplemental specifications and special provisions contained herein.
- (10) A pre-construction conference between the Contractor and the City of Romulus must be completed prior to the start of project construction to ensure that the Contractor meets all federal regulations.
- (11) All Proposals submitted shall remain firm for a period of 45 days after official opening of Bids
- (12) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any informalities therein, in accordance with MDOT 2003 Standard Specifications.

Publish: May 20, 2004
May 27, 2004
June 03, 2004

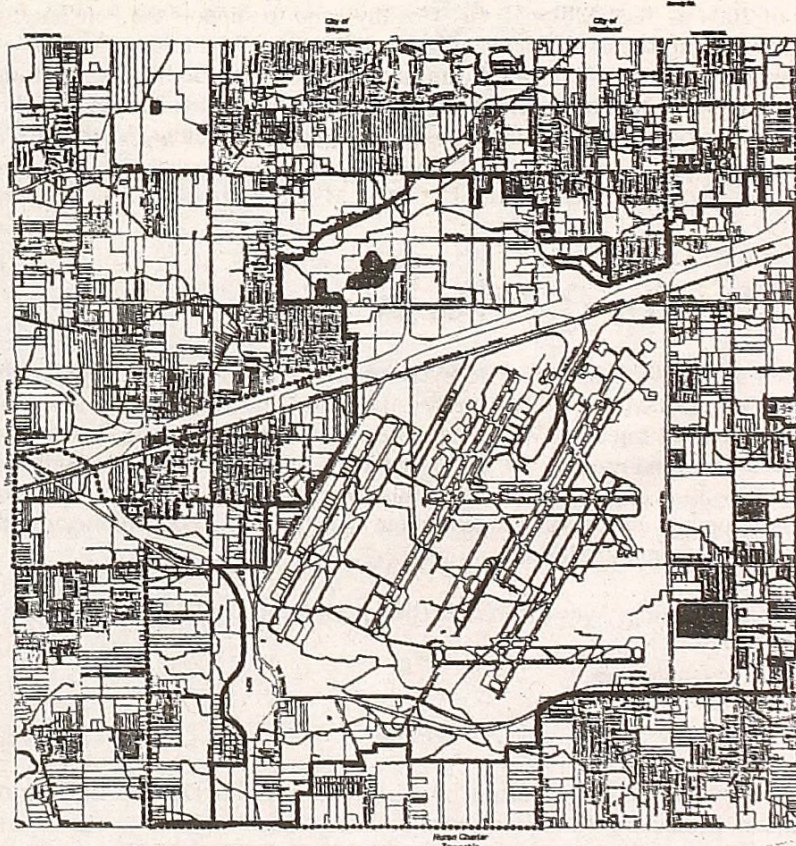
CITY OF ROMULUS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPROVAL OF AMENDED AND RESTATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN (DISTRICT II) OF THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF ROMULUS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Romulus, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 25th day of May, 2004, at 6:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time in the City Council Chambers, Romulus City Hall 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan to consider the adoption of a resolution approving the Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Finance Plan (the "Amended and Restated Plan") for the Development Area designated as District II (the "Development Area") of the Tax Increment Finance Authority of the City of Romulus pursuant to Act 450, Public Acts of Michigan, 1980, as amended.

The boundaries of the Development Area to which the Amended and Restated Plan applies are generally as follows:



The proposed amendments among other things update the scope of projects for the Development Area and amend the boundaries of the Development Area. Copies of the proposed Amended and Restated Plan, together with maps, plats, and other materials pertaining to the Amended and Restated Plan are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection during regular business hours.

At the public hearing, all aspects of the Amended and Restated Plan will be open for discussion, and all interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Amended and Restated Plan for the Tax Increment Finance Authority of the City of Romulus.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the Economic Development Director of the City of Romulus.

THIS NOTICE is given by order of the City Council of the City of Romulus, Michigan.

LINDA R. CHOATE, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: May 20, 2004

OPINION

Vote of confidence

Voters in the Northville Public Schools District will have two important choices to make when they go to the polls on June 14. They will select two board members and essentially tell school officials what they think of their fiscal management.

That's essentially what an approval of a bond request is: it's a vote of confidence from the public.

We think the Northville School District deserves that confidence. Voters should approve the \$35.7 million bond issue.

There are a number of ways to rationalize the affirmative vote and the thinking that went behind it. As school bonds go, it's not a terribly big request – the schools could probably have made a convincing argument to ask for an even larger sum. We could break it down and say that the bond may cost the average home owner in Northville about \$150 a year, which equates to three value meals a month at a fast food restaurant.

The most convincing argument, however, is the simplest.

The schools want to – and should – maintain the investment already made by taxpayers.

That's what the money will go for, improvements at Amerman, Moraine, Ridge Wood, Silver Springs, Thornton Creek and Winchester elementary schools, where everything from playground improvements to interior lighting, roofing and more will be upgraded, along with several additions at some of the schools. Hillside Middle School will get a new roof and upgraded heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems, along with technology upgrades. Meads Mill Middle School will get 10 new rooms along with plenty of other improvements.

Ultimately, some of those upgrades will save the district money – new lights are more efficient, as are new heater and air-conditioners.

The district will also be able to purchase 10 new buses for the aging fleet.

Many, if not all, of these improvement items are things that need to be done relatively quickly. If the bond request isn't approved by voters, that fact is not going to change. We think the citizens' bond committee did a good thing when they didn't use that rationale as the primary reason for pushing this request – nobody likes that form of aggressive persuasion technique.

School districts are relatively limited in the way they can pay for improvements like these, expansions or new schools. Without bond funds to pay for them, they would be forced to divert money away from the actual business of educating students, and that results in bigger class sizes and fewer teachers. Nobody wants that.

The best way to avoid it is to vote yes for the bond on June 14 and give the district the money it needs to keep the schools safe, comfortable and first-rate learning institutions.

Time to 'groan' and bear it

There was a moment of surprised silence Monday night at the Plymouth City Commission meeting when commissioners didn't approve a proposed water rate increase.

"Well, I guess we need a roll call vote," said Mayor Stella Greene, who was slightly taken aback. The vote showed the commissioners evenly split on the issue, 3-3. Phil Pursell, who owns Main Street Auto Wash, was allowed not to vote because his business uses more water than virtually any other firm or residence in the city.

What was the reason for the surprise? Well, by now, we all know one thing about water rates. They're going to go up. It may be the only thing we know about them and how they're set, but it's a foregone conclusion that the rates will continue to rise as infrastructure repair

See **Water**, page 8

HA! THIS LIL' BARRICADE
WON'T STOP ME!!



The way to build a community

I have to admit, I was a little disappointed to see the turnout Saturday at a community build at Civitan Park in Wayne.

Sure, the weather wasn't all that great; it was unseasonably cold, and the heavy rains from the previous day left the work zone a veritable mud pit that threatened to swallow up every semi-stable walking surface thrown down onto it.

The Civitans and the junior Civitans were fairly well-represented – their name is on the park, after all – and there were several workers from the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Parks and Recreation Department, but I didn't see the response I thought I would from the surrounding neighborhood.

Granted this is coming from a guy who was there, camera in hand, but who didn't pitch in with the actual work. Even so, I would have liked to see more people volunteering.

The neighborhood, off

Glenwood Road near Newburgh Road, is a populous one. Every time I drive by the park there are children playing in it, after school is out. I know it is well-used. It can be a source of pride to pitch in and improve a neighborhood park, which is what the park is, even though it is owned by the city and named after a service group.

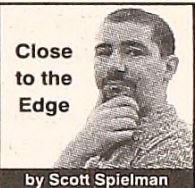
Truthfully, these community build events are often better in concept than they turn out in reality. Either you get a large collection of volunteers, big on heart but limited on experience, or you get a group of people out there under the auspices of volunteer work who are actually getting paid. Of course, during election years, there's no shortage of volunteer candidates. For them, frequently, the dress slacks manage to stay clean and the plastic garbage bags, empty.

Let's face it. Volunteerism is difficult. Nobody wants to take the time any more. It can be frus-

trating to work hard alongside someone who is not, people who are there more likely for the exposure or the conversation than the feeling of satisfaction, wiping sweat from their brow earned by a good day's work. If it weren't so hard, people would be doing more of it.

At the end of the day, the results were the same, but I can't help shake the feeling that the community is slightly diminished. There is a nice new playscape at the park, one that children will enjoy for years and years to come. It was tough work for those who put it together: they strained, they lifted, hammered and constructed, all the while worrying that the soft ground would steal their shoes.

I just hope that, the next time the city hosts a volunteer community build day, we see more of the community out there, volunteering.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Family that exercises stays healthy

Health officials agree that overweight children are the most likely to become tomorrow's fat adults, which places them at risk for a variety of health problems, including high blood pressure, heart attacks and diabetes.

Unfortunately, the National Center for Health Statistics says that nearly 15 million youngsters in this country between the ages of 6 and 18 are overweight. The number has nearly tripled since 1980.

But how do you get a young couch potato off the couch? Experts at the American Heart Association say it takes commitment. Parents need to make time in their busy schedules for long walks, bicycle riding and

physical activity that the whole family can enjoy. One of the best things parents can do is teach children life-long exercise habits.

How to begin? Don't tell your kids to "Go play." Say, "Let's go play." Make after-dinner walks, or morning jogs and playing soccer or touch football a family habit.

When the snow flies, take the team approach to mall walking, working out at a local gym, even snow shoveling and building snowmen.

Winters are always more fun when enjoyed with family, and I'm a firm believer that the family that exercises together stays fit together.

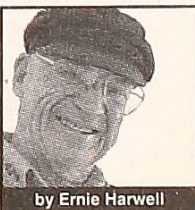
And please remember to take

care of your health before it's lonngggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone.

Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years.

His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.



by Ernie Harwell

JOURNAL
NEWSPAPERS

Your voice in Plymouth, Canton and Northville



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Leaving a sad legacy

My neighbor killed himself today. Took a sawed-off shotgun, put the barrel to his chest and pulled the trigger. He left behind a wife and two young children.

What could push a man to a point of such despondency that he can't bear the thought of one more minute of life?

In my neighbor's case, he was clearly a troubled individual. Emotionally battered by an impending divorce he didn't want, he sought refuge in the kind words of friends and neighbors. Sometimes he would talk about killing himself.

Rich, you need to think about your kids. Rich, you're moving on, put it behind you, we would say. Rich, have you seen a counselor?

Now it comes out that he had this day planned since February. Why he picked May 16, nobody knows. But he had it circled in red on his calendar.

How does a person come to a point where the only thing he is looking forward to is his own death?

I am a perpetual optimist, so this is hard for me to understand. I've had my share of bad days, but I have never been ready to abandon ship. For me, there has always been a way out, a possibility, a chance that tomorrow will be better. It breaks my heart to know that Rich lived in such a dark place that no sliver of hope could penetrate the depths of his despair.

What does it feel like to live without hope?

Before his death, Rich made comments to his wife that May 16 would be a day she would never forget. On May 16, she would be sorry.

My God, Rich, is that what this is about? You took your own life to make someone else

miserable?

If making people miserable was his goal, he succeeded. He left behind a distraught wife who never wished him harm, even if she did want to separate. He traumatized his next-door neighbors, who are now blaming themselves, even though their door was always open to him. His children, ages 4 and 7, have been told of their father's "accidental" death. They are now fatherless.

How could you abandon your children?

I'm sure there are readers who are thinking, "If he told you he was going to commit suicide, why didn't you do anything?" But we did. He had a counselor and was on medication. He had a priest. He had a lawyer to help him with the divorce. He had the ears and hearts of everyone in the neighborhood, all of us trying to coach him through this difficult time. He had the attention of the police.

But none of this mattered. His decision had been made.

Rich, if only you had looked around you and seen how much you mattered.

I'm not sure what demons lurked in Rich's soul. He was obviously wrestling with problems far greater than any of us realized. My only hope is that others may learn from this God-awful experience: that those contemplating suicide will realize the swath of destruction it leaves behind, that those who know a potential suicide victim will realize that yes, it really does happen and that everyone will understand the horrifying and silent finality of it all.

Rich, may you find peace at last.



Wherrett's At
by Theresa Wherrett

Letters

Mayor defends position

To the editor;

Your editorial in last week paper "Its not broke...."

It is indeed interesting and not surprising that you would come out against a change from a council/manger form of government as opposed to an elected, full-time mayoral form of government because that has always been your position. It's also interesting that you don't offer any reasons for your position except to cite other cities where it is apparently working well.

One could readily point to other cities such as Romulus, Taylor, Westland and Dearborn Heights to advocate for full-time elected mayors as well. If you look a little closer at your comparisons, it's not fair at all. Inkster profile, demographics and taxable value is not even close. The City of Plymouth has 6,500 population and tax value of 549 million state equalized value (SEV), Northville, 6459 pop. 310 million SEV and Wayne has a 19,000 population and 538 million SEV. Inkster has a population of 30,000 and an SEV of 285 million. Inkster has four times the population as Plymouth, Northville (while those communities) have four times more money to provide city services than Inkster. Wayne has almost twice as much money.

In short, your comparative cities don't even come close to the degree of challenges for municipal service delivery, or the efforts necessary to grow its tax base.

The truth is that Inkster has had council/manger form of government for over 40 years and what has it gotten us? We certainly haven't progressed at the same pace as those cities. Yet you argue its not the fault of the system and by that I believe you are referring to the form of government. The city needs to explore another form of government that can provide us with different results. A much wiser man once said that doing something over and over the same way and trying to get a different result is the definition of insanity.

Sure we're finally catching up to some of our neighboring communities, but we still lag behind and while they continue to make giant steps forward we're making baby steps. Simply put, part-time mayors produce part-time results and there is nothing magical about city managers. Sure they're professionals but not necessarily trained to be city administrators. They come from many disciplines and mayors can also be professionals from varied disciplines. We don't have to import city managers to run our city. We can draw from our own talent pool to find smart capable people, who will live in our community and work full time as mayor for the betterment of our city. I would agree with you that if it's not broken don't fix it, but the fact is, in the interest of our community it's not working.

Hilliard Hampton,
Mayor
City of Inkster

Send us your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication. Mail letters to: The Journal, P.O. Box 701422, Plymouth, Mich 48170. Letters may be edited for content or space and must include a phone number for verification of identity.

Water

FROM PAGE 7

needs and new storm water run off requirements are met.

Officials in the City of Plymouth learned a hard lesson several years ago when they found out their water and sewer fund was in a deficit situation. For nearly 10 years, the city hadn't passed along water rate increases imposed on them by Detroit or completed any sewer system upgrades, unless the system broke and they were forced to do so. They then faced an astronomical increase to get things in line.

The price increases are things that nobody likes - politicians pay them, just like the rest of us - but they tend to be passed along by the local electeds, who bemoan the fact that we have to pay them and then go on to blame the City of Detroit Water and Sewer Board, which probably

deserves the blame, anyway.

The idea behind the tabling of the motion Monday was that some of the proposed costs could be offset this year by a sale of city-owned land. That money could go to bring up the reserve balance in the water and sewer fund, which was another goal of the proposed rate increase. It would help ease the burden on residents on fixed incomes.

It's a noble thought, but ultimately it probably won't make a difference. It's not a large part of the increase - it would only generate about \$100,000 of the estimated \$700,000 city auditors would like to see in that fund - and a few dimes saved here may cost a few quarters further down the line.

The situation isn't going to change. Work needs to be done and everyone needs to drink. It'd be better for city officials to grunt and bear the increases again, inform their residents of the reason, and ask them to do the same.



Honor your High School Graduate

Place an announcement in the following papers on June 17, 2004:

The Northville Journal, The Plymouth Journal, The Canton Eagle, The Wayne Eagle, The Westland Eagle, The Inkster Ledger Star, The Romulus Roman, and the The Belleville Enterprise.

Just fill out this submission form and send a photo along with check or money order for \$35 to:

Journal Newspapers
Attn: Classifieds
35540 Michigan Avenue
Wayne, MI 48184.

Please Print
Name: _____
School Name: _____
☐ Digital (Filename/Disk _____)
☐ Photo Print (Please label photo with student's name on back)

Check if photo is to be returned

Payment and photo must be received by June 10, 2004



a NEW Car!

• Proceeds To Benefit •
• St. Joseph Mercy Hospital/ Trinity Health-Michigan •

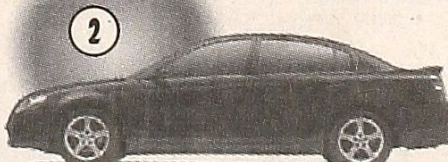
2004 New Car Raffle

A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold at \$100 each.

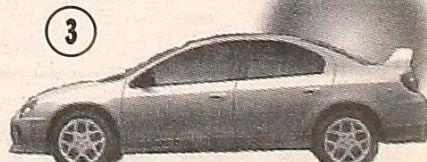
Grand Prize Choice of



2004 KIA Sedona LX



2003 NISSAN Altima 2.5S



2004 DODGE Neon SRT-4



2004 St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Car Raffle

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of tickets requested: _____

Visa/MC: _____

Signature: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Exp. Date: _____

You must be 18 or older to purchase tickets. You may fax orders to (734) 712-3730. Please indicate your name, address, phone number, and MasterCard or Visa with expiration date, and your receipt and ticket stub will be mailed to you. Tickets also available in person at Dick Scott Dodge, Plymouth, Dick Scott Kia & Dick Scott Nissan, Canton. At the time of delivery winner will be responsible for paying all applicable registration, title fees, and taxes. Winner is responsible for additional options. Vehicles are non-transferable, non-exchangeable, and non-refundable. Winner must be resident of the United States. Raffle drawing will be held on Wednesday, June 9th, 2004 @ 4:30 p.m. At Summit on the Park, Canton, MI. Need not be present to win, but if you would like to be present for the drawing, discounted dinner-only tickets are available for \$25 with the purchase of a raffle ticket. Proceeds will benefit St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. If you have any questions, please call St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Development Dept. at (734) 712-4040. Raffle license # R76154.

OBITUARIES

DEPAS, Clarence R.
Clarence R. DePas, 80, of Belleville died May 9.
Among his survivors are his son, Richard (Carol) DePas of Belleville; a granddaughter, Rebecca (Ryan) Dalton, and two great-grandchildren, Sabrie and Tyler Dalton.
Mr. DePas was a member of the Romulus VFW, the Van Buren Township Eagles and a former member of the Belleville Moose Lodge.
Mr. DePas served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II.
Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

STAFFELD, Margaret E.
Margaret E. Staffeld, 85, of Romulus, died May 8.
Among her survivors are her sons, Donald (Anna) Staffeld of Brownstown and Dennis Staffeld of Foster City, CA; a daughter, Carol (Larry) Harris of Plains, MT; five grandchildren, Shannon (Kenneth) Benson, Calvin (Lenka) Harris, David (Melinda) Staffeld, James (Tricia) Staffeld and Robert Staffeld, and six great-grandchildren.
Mrs. Staffeld was a member of the Kirby Free Will Baptist Church Senior Citizen Group and a member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post in Plains, MT.
Funeral services were at the Kirby Free Will Baptist Church in Taylor where Mrs. Staffeld was an active member with the Rev. Mike Trimble officiating.
Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West in Westland.
Arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home.

HUBBARD, Gerald G.
Gerald G. Hubbard, 70, of Bonita Springs, FL, formerly of Taylor, died May 9.
Among his survivors are his children, Todd W. (Barbara) Hubbard of New Boston and Robin (Larry) Bigger of Walled Lake; a sister, Carolyn Ida Schultz of Cadillac, and five grandchildren.
An engineer at Ford Motor Co. prior to his retirement, Mr. Hubbard served in the U.S. Army as a corporal.
Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Robert J. White officiating.
Interment was at the Tyler Street Cemetery in Van Buren Township.

HORN, Ivadell L.
Ivadell "Ivy" L. Horn, 71, of Romulus, formerly of New Boston, died May 16.
Among her survivors are her husband of more than 50 years, Arnold R. Horn; her children, Raymond (Peggy) Horn of Westland and Donna (Larry) Simpson of New Boston; sisters, Blanche (Jerry) Rocheleau of Tucson, AZ, Lydia (Earl) Curry of New Boston and Sharon (Bill) Harmon, also of New Boston; grandsons, Ronnie (Sarah) Tupacz of Virginia and Anthony Simpson of New Boston, and a great-grandson, Alexander Tupacz.
Funeral services were at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Boston where Mrs. Horn was a member with the Rev. D. Lee Cullen, Jr. officiating.
Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.
Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

FROST, Robert W.
Robert Walter Frost, 56, of Perrinville, formerly of Belleville, died May 13.
Among his survivors are his wife of 36 years, Jeanette Helen (Ostrowski) Frost; sons, Corey D. Frost of Belleville, Robert H. (Wendy) Frost of St. Clair Shores and Daniel A. Frost, also of Belleville; sisters, Barbara (Lee) Halferty of Climax, MI and Cheryl (Bruce) Allion of Belleville; brothers Barry (Pamela) Frost of Belleville and William J. (April) Frost of Wayne, and a grandson, Aidan Lee

Frost.
Mr. Frost retired from the Ford Motor Co. in Ypsilanti after 34 years as an electrician. He was a former member of the Sumpter PLAV and served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.
A funeral mass was at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville where Mr. Frost was a member with Father Thomas H. Cusick as celebrant, assisted by Deacon Peter Cornell.
Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

RECEIPT OF AN OPERATING LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION FOR A HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 5, hereby give notice that the Environmental Quality Company has submitted an operating license renewal application for its Michigan Disposal Waste Treatment Plant (MDWTP) facility. On September 30, 1999, MDWTP was reissued a hazardous waste management facility operating license pursuant to Part 111, Hazardous Waste Management, of Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, and a permit pursuant to the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984.

MDWTP operates a hazardous waste storage and treatment facility at 49350 North I-94 Service Drive in Belleville, Michigan. MDWTP stores and treats a variety of liquid and solid hazardous wastes generated from various sources.

The MDEQ and the U.S. EPA staff are reviewing the renewal application to determine if it is complete and technically satisfies all state and federal hazardous waste facility licensing requirements. If the application is found to be incomplete, the missing information will be requested from the applicant. As soon as the missing information is provided, the MDEQ will proceed with the technical review of the application. Based upon this review, the MDEQ and the U.S. EPA will propose to reissue or deny the operating license. Prior to a final determination, a public hearing will be held regarding the tentative decision.

A notice will appear in this publication approximately 30 days prior to a public hearing date. At this time, the MDEQ and the U.S. EPA are soliciting public comments on the adequacy of the application and any issues associated with the facility's past operation. Comments should be sent to the address printed below by June 30, 2004.

The MDWTP renewal application is available for inspection at the MDEQ, Southeast Michigan District Headquarters, located at 38980 Seven Mile Road in Livonia, Michigan (contact Mr. Mike Busse at 734-953-1403); at the Van Buren Township offices, located at 46425 Tyler Road in Belleville, Michigan (contact Mr. Daniel Swallow at 734-699-8913); at the MDEQ, Waste and Hazardous Materials Division Office, located at 525 W. Allegan Street in Lansing, Michigan (contact Ms. Kimberly M. Tyson); and at the U.S. EPA Region 5 Office, RCRA Permitting Branch, located at 77 West Jackson Boulevard in Chicago, Illinois (contact Mr. John Gaitskill at 312-886-6795). Copies of the application may be obtained from the Waste and Hazardous Materials Division for the cost of reproduction. Send your request and mailing address to Ms. Louise Taylor at the address below.

To receive future departmental notifications concerning this facility, please submit a written request for placement on the MDWTP mailing list to the address below. Questions regarding the facility should be addressed to:

Ms. Kimberly M. Tyson
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
P.O. Box 30241
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-373-2487

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CITY OF ROMULUS
PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR TAX ABATEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Romulus City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 7, 2004 at 6:45 p.m. in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 to consider an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate pursuant to P.A. 198 of 1974, as amended, for Lear Corporation, 36310 Eureka Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Land situated in the City of Romulus, Wayne County, State of Michigan, described as:

That part of the southeast ¼ of Section 29, Town 3 South, Range Mast, City of Romulus, County of Wayne, Michigan, described as. Beginning at a point on the South line of Section 29, distant South 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds East along the South line of Section 29, 9.33 feet from the South ¼ corner of said Section 29 and thence proceeding South 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds East along the south line of Section 29, 382.57 feet; thence along the following fine denoting the Westerly right-of-way line of I-275 Expressway: North 01 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds East, 60 00 feet, North 46 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds East, 233.35 feet, North 01 degree 02 minutes 00 seconds East, 147.76 feet, North 22 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds East, 160.54 feet, North 43 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds East, 520.87 feet, North 32 degrees 40 minutes 55 seconds East, 384.85 feet, North 11 degrees 58 minutes 45 seconds East, 384.85 feet, North 01 degrees 37 minutes 40 seconds East, 202.81 feet and North 02 degrees 18 seconds West along the East line of the West ½ of the Southeast ¼ of section 29, 807.65 feet thence North 89 degrees 09 minutes 28 seconds West along the East and West ¼ line of Section 29, 1291.48 feet; thence South 01 degree 21 minutes 16 seconds East along the East line of Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, 2622.14 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Except all that part taken for Eureka Road in a certain Declaration of Taking contained in Liber 167.95, Page 105, Wayne county Records, located in the West ½ of the Southeast ¼ Section 29, Town 3 South, Range 9 East, described as: Beginning at the South ¼ corner of said Section 29; thence South 88 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds East along the South line of said Section 29, a distance of 391.90 feet; thence North 01 degree 02 minutes 00 seconds East. 60. 00 feet thence North 86 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds, West, 392 feet, more or less, to the West line of said Section; thence Southerly, along said West line, 60 feet, more of less, to the Point of Beginning.

This is an open meeting! All interested citizens are invited to attend, and will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposal. Written comments may be forwarded no later than June 7, 2004 at 12 o'clock noon to the attention of:

City of Romulus
Linda R. Choate, City Clerk
11111 Wayne Road
Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485

Linda R. Choate, CMC,
Clerk City

Publish: May 20, 2004

Well adjusted

99-year-old continues with lifetime of chiropractic care

Scott Spielman
Editor

Dr. David Atiyeh said he knew he had some big shoes to fill when he took over a thriving and popular chiropractic practice from long-time Plymouth fixture Dr. Sid Disbrow.

"He had a fabulous following," Atiyeh said. "He was a super guy, and everyone loved him."

Atiyeh, who has had the Main Street practice for four years now, has maintained most of the clients, thanks in part to a solid transition period that took place when the office changed hands. Atiyeh, a Plymouth resident, said he had long pondered the move and wanted to make sure the practice was as personable going forward as it had been in the past.

It was enough for Thelma Roy, a 99-year-old woman who has sought chiropractic care for more than 75 years.

Roy was a client at the Plymouth office dating back to Disbrow's father, who originated it more than 30 years ago.

"I don't know what I'd do

without him," said Roy, who first made the trip to the Detroit area in 1924. That was a five-day journey in a covered wagon from Lake City.

The two have another connection, too – they both share the same birth date, only 50 years apart.

Atiyeh has more than 20 years in the field. He has degrees in engineering and

utation it has of making positive changes in the body has steadily grown since then.

It relies on the premise that the spine is the center of the body, and the vertebrae of the spinal column an equally important part of that. If one of them gets out of line, it causes problems in a variety of ways – from lack of energy to headaches, pains and numbness in body

parts – because the nerve impulses are short-circuiting, like a blown circuit.

The solution to those problems doesn't have to be medicine or surgery,

he added. It can merely be the process of moving the vertebrae back into alignment.

"We don't cure anything, but we help the body do it," he said.

Although adjusting the spine is a large part of the field, the most popular image of that process – of abrupt, loud spine cracking adjustments – isn't the bulk of what chiropractors do, according to Atiyeh. In fact, they wouldn't be possible in a patient as old as Roy.

"There are thousands of ways to accomplish what we want to

There are thousands of ways to accomplish what we want to accomplish. It doesn't have to be an aggressive adjustment. That's just a small part of it.

Dr. David Atiyeh

physiology, and said the relationship between the two fields is what attracted him, at first, to the field of chiropractic medicine. He said it was a glimpse at an x-ray that convinced him that the career choice would be the right one to make.

"It made perfect sense to me," he said. "I understand how nerves function. It's a system of levers. I was fascinated from that standpoint."

Chiropractic medicine is a field that actually dates back to the early 1900s, he said. The rep-



Dr. David Atiya and his oldest chiropractic patient Thelma Roy, who first traveled to the Detroit area in a covered wagon from Lake City.

accomplish," Atiyeh said. "It doesn't have to be an aggressive adjustment. That's just a small part of it."

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THE SCENE

Southern comfort Local band entertains crowds with bluegrass and gospel

Andrea King
Staff Writer

When the movie *O Brother, Where Art Thou* was popular, the eight members of the Southern Flavor and the Saggy Bottom Girls discovered their band and their name.

Harvey White, who plays lead guitar for the band, was performing on stage when he saw three "soggy bottom" girls in the audience. He asked them to join him on stage.

"Hey you three soggy bottom girls," yelled White. "Come up here and show us what you got."

And they did. Except, they weren't the soggy bottom girls, they named themselves the saggy bottom girls. Shortly thereafter, three men joined the group to give the "southern flavor."

Marci Miller, lead singer of the group, said that together the band produces a mix of old country, bluegrass and gospel. The band has been performing for more than a year.

"Right now we're getting a lot of play and we're having fun doing it," said Miller.

The eight members: Sharon



Southern Flavor and the Saggy Bottom Girls will perform from 2-5:30 p.m. Sunday at the September Days Senior Center. Upcoming events include performances at the Sumpter Fest, the Wayne Fair and other community events.

Van Buren on vocals and guitar, Jane Walker on upright bass, Jerry Dunn on vocals and guitar, Joe Beautti on dobro and banjo, Tony on mandolin, White and Miller, have their jam sessions in Taylor and perform at local community centers. Currently, they perform once a month at the September Days Senior Center

in Van Buren Township. They will also perform during the Sumpter Township Sumpter Fest.

"The concerts are free," said Miller. "We do it for the love of music, not for the money. Most of our gigs we don't get paid for because we just want to get the music out there."

The band is always doing charity benefits. Most recently they have played to generate funds for a cancer patient, paving for the Eagles Lodge and to save the Ypsilanti freight house, according to Miller.

Miller not only performs in the band, but she handles all the booking.

"I try to get a variety of bands and types of music into the September Center," she said. "Other bands such as Marion Blue and Radio Gang. I love working in music whether it is performing it or booking it."

Band members come from Ypsilanti, Westland, Novi, Flat Rock, Taylor and Van Buren Township with an extensive background combining their years of experience. Miller said that she has been playing guitar since she was 10.

"My father loved music," she said. "We were always listening to our battery-operated radio. He was a natural singer; that's where my love for music began."

Miller said that she started playing guitar in church. Through the years she raised a family and continued with music.

"Anywhere there's music, I'm there," she said. "That's why I know so many bands."

Although the group has not produced a CD, Miller said that is in the near future.

"Right now we are doing cover songs of Conway Twitty, Kitty

See Music, page 12

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Inkster artist featured in Detroit exhibition

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

If there's one message artist Lindsey Wolkowicz wants those who attend her upcoming art show to hear, it's that art is for everyone, no matter what their station in life.

And the enjoyment of art, therefore, should be universal, the Inkster native said.

"One of the things I learned when I moved to Milwaukee – which is a blue-collar community – is that not very many people (in the community) were interested in the arts, and that's a shame," she explained. "The art that was being shown in the area did not speak to their lives. That's something I'd like to see change in the near future."

But a first step in what the 23-year-old artist hopes will be a lifetime of changing attitudes and perceptions toward art is actually taking place 17 miles from Inkster, in another urban metropolis: Detroit.

"Circus," a show taking place at the 4731 Gallery in the big "D," is a collection featuring more than 40 new and original paintings and drawings by Wolkowicz and two other area artists, Erin Moloney and Philip Christian Sand. The show will take place on the fourth floor of the gallery.

Inspired by the urban landscape, Wolkowicz' work reflects the heavily industrialized areas that have surrounded her, both in metro Detroit and Milwaukee. This edge is what she hopes will open the world of art to people who have been so far uninspired.

"I am of the school of thought that art should not be exclusive; that there should be something for everyone," she said. "Too often, what's out there is only for a select

few. If the perception is that art is always for someone else, then there's no sense in others looking at it."

Wolkowicz is a recent graduate of the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, where most of her studies were in painting. Though she still finds time to draw, make prints and take photographs, it is painting that is her true passion. When not working three days a week at a paint store, Wolkowicz immerses herself in the tactile world of color and composition.

The artist's talent first became apparent to her family and teachers when she was a student at Divine Child Elementary School. She was able to hone her skills at Dinne Child High School, where she studied under the tutelage of art teacher Michael Foye. Even though she graduated from high school five years ago, Wolkowicz' work still adorns the walls of the high school.

Wolkowicz' father, Inkster Parks and Recreation Director Ron Wolkowicz, said he supports his daughter's ambitions, even though being a working artist can be tough road to travel.

"I'm really pleased that she's found what makes her happy," she said. "The job of a parent is to support their children."

Wolkowicz said there was never a time her parents made her feel as though being a working artist was not feasible. This is especially true of her mother, Mary Ann, a teacher at Divine Child who was a painter and spent long hours teaching her two daughters about visual arts. Mary Ann Wolkowicz was killed in a traffic accident in 1996.

"My mother was the single most important influence in my life, Wolkowicz said. "This is especially so when it comes to art. She made sure we were exposed to art; she recognized that it was important. We were very close – and we had so much in common." She also cites Foye as a major influence on her style and overall development.

Wolkowicz has contributed work to several shows and solo exhibitions in Milwaukee, but this is her first showing in Detroit. Also an avid writer of poetry, she was published in the *Yellow Elephant*, an independent poetry publication in Ann Arbor. She also published "4 and Everything After: Collected Poems and Drawings 1999-2003 (Helicycle Press, 2004).

"Circus" will open with a reception from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. June 5 at 4731 Gallery, located at 4731 Grand River Ave. in Detroit. For more information, call (313) 320-4785.



From Sweet Suckers Dance, Oil on canvas (1999).



From Self at 40, Oil on wood (1999).

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Music -

FROM PAGE 11

Wells, George Jones and other bluegrass musicians, but we are booked up until September, so we will continue to play," she said. "Then we'll start working on a record."

Southern Flavor and the Saggy Bottom Girls will perform from 2-5:30 p.m. Sunday at the September Days Senior Center. Upcoming events include performances at the Sumpter Fest, the Wayne Fair and other community events.

"My health is good and as long as I'm able to, I'll continue in music," said Miller.



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Philip J. Mayer, MD, spine surgeon

You get up, start to go through your regular routine.

Getting the kids ready for school. Making breakfast. Getting dressed for work. You bend over to put your shoe on, when a knife, like pain shoots down your back. You can't stand up, you have to lay down. You have just experienced acute low back pain.

Acute low back pain strikes 80 percent of the population. This pain can radiate down into the legs and

is usually accompanied by weakness and sometimes numbness. Often the sufferer is unable to stand up straight and will either be bent over or favor a side. If the symptoms occurred suddenly, they are called acute and usually last a couple of days. If an episode lasts longer than three months, it is a chronic condition.

A majority of back pain sufferers, 80 to 90 percent, will recover with non-operative treatments. Such methods may include anti-inflammatory medicine, muscle relaxants, short periods of rest and sometimes physical therapy.

If further measures are needed, diagnostic options are utilized

through x-rays, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or computed topography (CT) scan of the spine. This allows the physician to look at the anatomy to determine if an abnormality can be identified.

Once the source of the pain is identified, stronger methods of non-operative treatments are prescribed. If the patient fails to respond to those, then surgery options are available. A common spinal surgery known as discectomy is often performed on an outpatient basis. During the surgery, a small piece of bone is removed to see the disc. Then the herniated portion of the disc is removed, which will then relieve the pressure it was exerting on the nerves.

The goal is to get the patient to return to a normal, unrestricted and productive quality of life.

Dr. Mayer, is a board certified, fellowship trained spine surgeon at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. He has been in private practice since 1996 serving western Wayne County. Dr. Mayer completed his orthopaedic residency at the University of Rochester and completed fellowships at Harvard Children's Medical Center and the University of Hong Kong.

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SPORTS

Canton soccer overcomes Stevenson, 2-1, remains undefeated

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Unbelievable, unbeaten – those are the two words that best describe the Canton Chiefs girls' varsity soccer team. Sixteen games into the season and, with one remaining, the crew has won 13 and tied three.

Their latest victory came against a sprightly Stevenson team in a crossover game on Monday night in Livonia. It took more than half of the game before a point was scored but it was Canton that prevailed, 2-1.

Sophomore forward Lisa Ealy nailed the first goal to put Canton on the board first. Rebecca Houdek assisted on the play. With eight minutes left, junior forward Andrea Johnson made it a two-point game and Houdek notched

her second assist of the night. Junior goalie Brittany Cervi was three minutes from recording her ninth shutout, but Stevenson's Melissa Dobbyn put one past her to make it a 2-1 game. Cervi ended the day with 20 saves, according to Canton coach Don Smith.

Chiefs 6, Chargers 0

The Canton soccer team – force is more like it – rolled to another victory with a 6-0 shutout against the Churchill Chargers last week.

The powerhouse offense was on, but it was the strong play of the defense and Cervi, who recorded her eighth shutout with six saves, that really solidified the win, according Smith.

"Churchill's a rugged team – they made us work," he said. "They played better than the

score indicated." Senior midfielder Rachel Perry led the offense with three scores including the first one in the first half to put the team on the board. Johnson made it a 2-0 game and Perry added the team's

”
They played better than
the score indicated.

Coach Don Smith

third goal to close out the first half with a 3-0 lead.

Senior midfielder Katie Mills opened the second half with a goal and Perry added her third to make it 5-0. Junior midfielder Bailey Fagen finished off the

Chargers with the final goal to make it a 6-0 victory.

Ealy notched two of the assists of the day while Mills, Christie McDaniel, senior defender Megan Romer and senior Midfielder Katie Raker each recorded one assist.

Canton 5, Patriots 0

Due to a lightning storm last Monday the Chiefs had to cancel their game against Livonia Franklin. The storm didn't dampen their spirits, though.

They made up for it on Tuesday, May 11 with a 5-0 shutout of the Patriots.

Johnson led the offense with two goals while Perry, senior defender Katie Esper and Houdek each knocked in one for the win.

Perry, Maggie Maloney, McDaniel and Mills all recorded

assists. Cervi recorded the team's seventh shutout of the season.

The Chiefs played their cross-campus rivals Salem on Wednesday night in Canton but the results weren't available at press time. The Salem game was the final regular-season game. Both teams will play a conference playoff game next week before the district competition starts on June 1.

Smith said he likes where they are. And he should. They remained undefeated with a 13-0-3 overall record as of Tuesday.

"We're playing well and we're all healthy," he said.

"The girls are doing a nice job – they're playing hard. They do that and it makes things happen. They don't quit, they're a really good group of kids."

Salem Rocks roll past Wayne Zebras, 7-1, in tennis

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Salem varsity tennis team finished out their conference season with a 7-1 win over the Wayne Memorial Zebras last week.

The victory at home last Wednesday, May 12 put the

Rocks' record at an overall 9-1-1.

The team was undefeated in the singles competition. Chris Treadwell, at the number-one spot, defeated Erik Moro in two sets (6-0, 6-3). Number-two singles Robby Wallen knocked off Steve Frost in two (6-1, 6-2) and Kushal Mistry defeated Wilder Christofferson (6-5, 6-2) at num-

ber three singles. At number four, Pete Bartlett shut down Wayne's Tray Forey in the first set, 6-0, and continued with a 6-3 win in the second set to put the match away for Salem.

Salem's doubles teams were nearly flawless but suffered their only loss when Wayne's number-two team of James Grossmyer

and Brett Burns defeated Samir Shah and Mit Shah in a three-set contest.

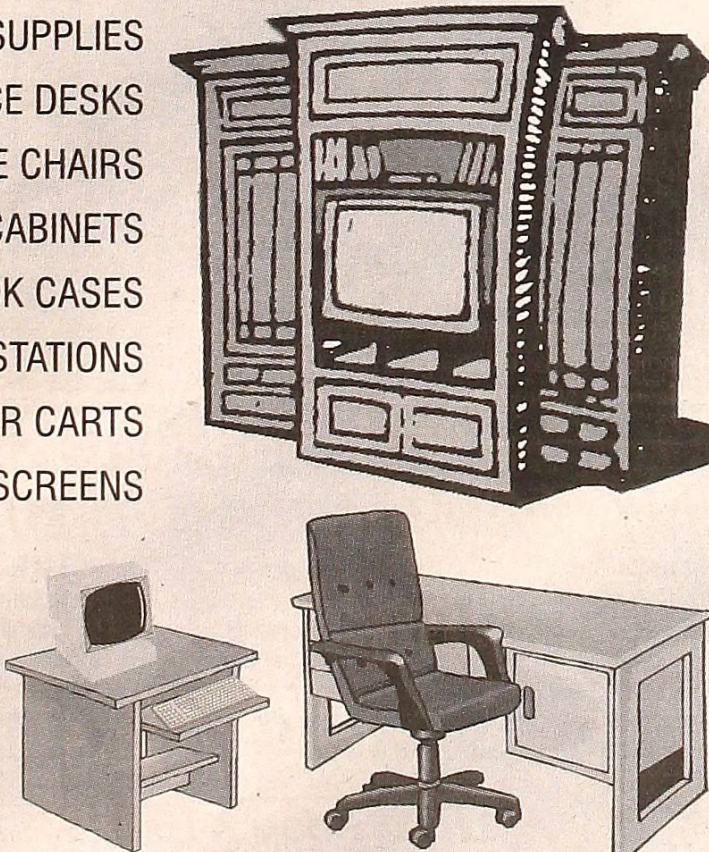
The number-one team of Roma Buffa and Craig Lytle defeated Marty Stano and Ryan Martin (6-2, 6-2) and John Schellhase and Dave Geick, at number three, defeated Nick Vacheresse and Dick Popham (6-

3, 6-1). Blake Foster and Alex Gui took a 6-4, 6-2 victory against Anthony Karaiski and Phillip Saunders in number-four doubles.

With the regular season over the Salem Rocks will concentrate on the regional competition, hosted by Ann Arbor Huron High School tonight and tomorrow.

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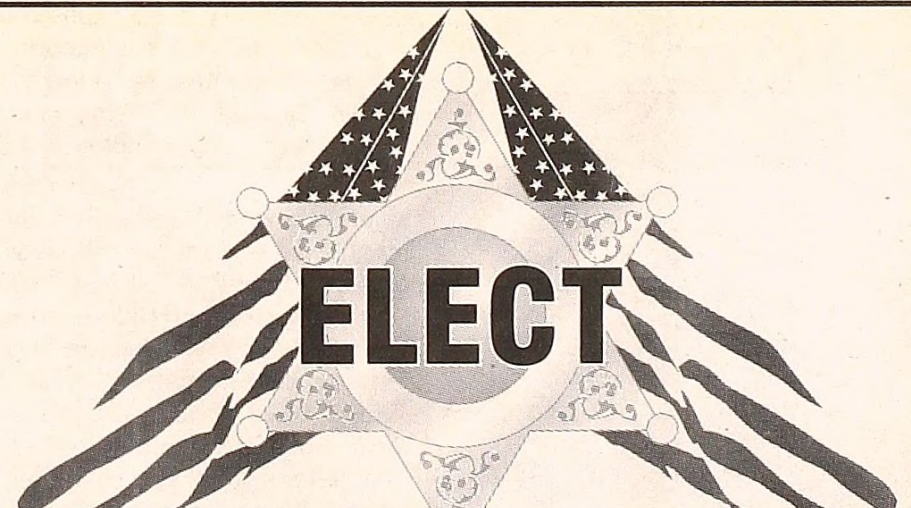


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Plymouth Whalers add playmakers in Priority Draft

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

After a long, arduous season riddled with injuries and a disappointing early exit from the playoffs, the Plymouth Whalers boosted their lineup with some top picks in the OHL Priority Draft.

The Whalers satisfied their biggest need – goal scorers – with their first two picks of the draft. Plymouth picked up John Armstrong, a center from the Junior Canadians, with their first pick (13th overall) and added center Cory Tanaka from the Richmond Hill Stars in the second round (24th overall).

“We wanted to draft players who have speed, skill and can score some goals,” said Mike Vellucci, Plymouth Whalers general manager and head coach. “One thing we needed is goal scorers. Last Season we didn’t score a lot of goals at even strength – most came on the power play. With Armstrong and Tanaka, we were able to address what we needed.”

Despite their shortcomings, the Whalers and Sarnia were tied for sixth in the league with 220 regular-season goals, down from 259 goals (3rd in the league) last year. John Mitchell had a breakout season to lead Plymouth with 28 goals, 54 assists for 84 points in 65 games. His total ranked him tenth in the league – the only team member to place in the top 10 – for points

scored. He also led the team in the playoffs with 12 points, six goals and six assists.

The added size and speed from Armstrong and Tanaka should boost the scoring for the Whalers.

Armstrong is a 6’ 2”, 174-pounder from Unionville, Ontario. He had a great season last year with the Junior Canadians as he tallied 63 goals and 87 assists for 150 points in 70 games. He also added 75 penalty minutes.

“I am excited to be coming to Plymouth,” he said. “I hope I can come in and help improve the team. I am an offensive player who also works hard in my own zone. I like to create opportunities for myself and teammates.”

Tanaka hails from Stouffville, Ontario and played with the Richmond Hill Stars. The 5’11”, 165-pounder racked up 28 goals and 51 assists for 79 points while adding 137 penalty minutes.

“Armstrong has great speed and can score goals. He is also good defensively and can kill penalties,” Vellucci said. “Tanaka is another player with a lot of speed and has good hands around the net and is also good on the penalty kill.”

The Whalers added another forward, right-winger Jeff McFarland (61st overall) and a defenseman Jake Helmick (73rd overall) in the fourth round. Then they added a familiar name in the fifth when they took Tommy

Sestito of the Syracuse Stars Junior B team. Tommy is the younger brother of current Whaler Tim Sestito.

All together, the Whalers finished the draft with eight forwards, four defenseman and two goalies.

Wisniewski named the OHLs most outstanding Defenseman

The Ontario Hockey League announced recently that James Wisniewski of the Plymouth Whalers is the winner of the Max Kaminski Trophy as the league’s most outstanding defenseman for the 2003-04 season.

Wisniewski scored 17 goals and 53 assists for 70 points in just 50 games to help Plymouth to a 32-24-9-3 record this season. The point total ranked him number three in the league for scoring defenseman. Bryan Rodney from the Kingston Frontenacs led the league with 76 points and Andre Benoit of the Kitchener Rangers was second with 75 points. However, they both played more than 65 games each.

Wisniewski, a 20-year-old native of Canton Township, recorded 21 multiple-point games including four-point efforts against the Kitchener Rangers on January 17 and the Erie Otters on March 6.

“This is a great honor for James to receive and he is certainly deserving of it,” Vellucci said. “He really stepped up his game this year and was often the best played on the ice. His hard

work and determination to be the best is exactly what Whalers hockey is all about and I’m very happy for him.”

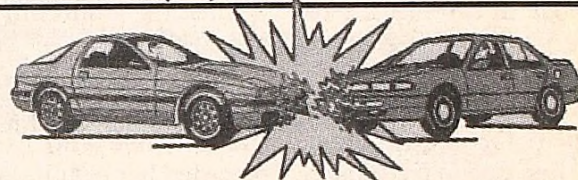
Wisniewski, the Whalers’ captain, was their first round pick in the 2000 OHL Priority Draft and was the fifth round pick of the Chicago Blackhawks in the 2002 NHL Entry Draft. He recently signed a contract with Chicago to play in the NHL. The conditions

of the contract were not disclosed.

The Whalers captain was also named the OHL defenseman of the month in October and in March and won a gold medal with Team USA at the World Junior Championships in Finland in January. He was previously named to the OHLs First All-Star Team and was on the OHL All-Rookie Team in 2001.

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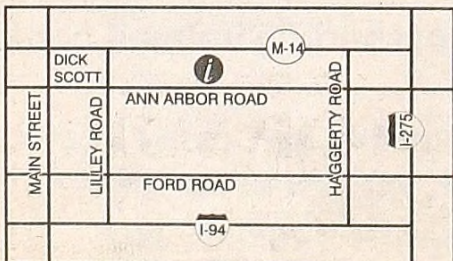
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Northville baseball struggles against Novi

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Northville Mustangs struggled last week on the baseball diamond and went 1-3 with games against Novi, Churchill and Salem.

The most recent battle was a doubleheader against the neighboring rivals Novi on Saturday. They played two solid games but fell in both to the 17-1 Wildcats.

In the first game the Mustangs only tallied up four hits against Novi's all-state pitcher Mike Hart, who is set to play for Eastern Michigan University next year.

Three of the four hits were earned in the second inning, according to Northville coach Mickey Newman. Jimmy Cicala hit a solo homer to get the team on the board and Rick Birdsall hit a sacrificial fly ball to score a run, junior catcher Matt Williams hit a single and Steve Besk nailed a double to score a run.

Despite giving up nine hits, Besk had a solid day pitching, according to Newman.

"He really pitched well against an excellent Novi lineup," he said. "He was able to get us out of a jam when the bases were loaded a couple of times."

After the third inning, Hart settled on the mound and shut the Mustangs down for the final four

innings to pull out the 6-3 win, according to Newman.

The late game was closer yet but Northville succumbed to the Wildcats again. This time it was a 10-9 come-from-behind victory for Novi.

Northville was up 5-4 going into the fifth frame. With two outs already posted and the bases loaded, Williams hit a grand slam to extend the Mustangs' lead to 9-4.

Novi dampened Northville's hopes and bounced back in the sixth to score six runs and put the game away 10-9.

Williams was the top hitter and finished the game with two hits and five RBIs. Cicala went 3-for-4 with a double, an RBI and one run scored.

Brett Asher and Brendan Buckley shared time on the mound. Asher pitched for four and one-third innings and gave up five hits and four runs while Buckley pitched for one and two-thirds innings and gave up five hits and three runs.

Although they lost both games, Newman managed to find the silver lining to the situation.

"A lot of good things happened," he said. "We did well considering the pitching match ups."

"We saw their best pitchers and did the best we could against them - it's important that we got to see them. They didn't get to see ours



Northville standout junior catcher Matt Williams crosses the plate in a doubleheader game against Novi on Saturday. The Mustangs lost both games.

and that was an important aspect of the games. We might have to see Novi again in districts."

Mustangs 11, Chargers 4

Northville's only win last week was an 11-4 romp over the Churchill Chargers in Livonia on Friday.

Senior pitcher Mark Sorenson earned his sixth win of the season and remains undefeated. He remains one win behind his record of 7-0 last year, according to Newman.

He pitched a complete seven innings, allowed eight hits for three earned runs and struck out 11 batters to notch the victory.

On offense Williams was solid again and went 2-for-3 with a double, two runs scored and an RBI. Buckley was the powerhouse in the game and went 3-for-4, which included a double, triple and a

third-inning homer to put the team up 5-0. He also collected two RBIs and scored four times.

Asher was another brute force at the plate and went 3-for-4. That included a three-run homer in the fifth to make it an 8-4 game. He also notched four RBIs and scored two times.

It was a big division win, Newman said. They improved their division record to 6-0.

Mustangs 8, Rocks 10

Northville had a close match up at home against the Salem Rocks last Wednesday but fell 10-8 in the slugfest.

The Mustangs were down 5-3 at the top of the fourth when Tyler Laing hit a two-run homer to tie the game, 5-5.

Salem came back in the fifth to score five runs and make it a 10-5 game and Northville battled to

make it 10-8 game after five innings, according to Newman. He said they couldn't get any runs in the final two frames to tie the game.

Cicala was strong from the plate with three hits, including two doubles, to score twice and knock in two runs. Williams was 3-for-3 with a single that knocked in two runs and Asher and Charlie Thomas each had two hits.

Senior pitcher Brian Tellish pitched for four innings and allowed five hits and nine walks. Andrew Smith came in for relief and pitched a one-hitter.

Andy Thackaberry led the Rocks' offense with a double, a home run and five RBI.

Barring weather conditions, the Mustangs are scheduled to hit the road and play Livonia Franklin tomorrow night.

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Struggling Inkster falls to Ecorse in 8-7 slug-fest

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The young and struggling Inkster Viking baseball team suffered four straight losses last week against Willow Run, Fordson, Dearborn Heights Robichaud and Ecorse. Their most recent battle was against Ecorse where they suffered a close 8-7 loss. The Vikings started off strong and drove in three runs in the first inning to take a 3-0 lead. The game was tied up, 3-3, but Inkster added two more runs at the top of the third to make it a 5-3 game.

Ecorse scored three more runs and took a 6-5 lead. But the Vikings battled back and scored another run in the fifth to knot the game again, 6-6. Ecorse regained the lead in the sixth to make it a 7-6 game. Inkster wouldn't lie down and tied the score, 7-7, at the top of the seventh frame of play. The final run wasn't enough, though. Ecorse had one last surge and scored the winning run at the bottom of the last inning to sneak away with the 8-7 victory. "The kids are starting to play ball now," said Inkster coach Jerome Orr. "It's too bad that the

season is almost over because they're starting to really enjoy themselves." Mike Willingham was solid from the plate with three hits. At the top of the seventh inning he nailed a base hit and from there he managed to steal second and third than made it home on an over thrown ball. The score tied the game for Inkster. Reggie Smith had three singles and Chris Jordan added a base hit. Xavier Fowler started the scoring in the first inning with a double that knocked in two runs. Leviston Smith and Nate Davis also had big hits in

the first frame to give Inkster the early lead. First-year pitcher Pierre Goree recorded three strikeouts in Inkster's efforts but was relieved in the fifth by Reggie Smith who also struck out three batters. The earlier part of the week didn't fall as exciting but Inkster still fell in three other games. After battling the elements and taking a thirty-minute rain delay the Vikings lost their 1-0 lead and were overcome by Dearborn Heights Robichaud, 12-2, on Thursday. "I feel that every close call

went to Robichaud," Orr said. "Nothing came to us." Dearborn Fordson shut out Inkster, 15-0, on Wednesday and Willow Run defeated them, 13-3, on Tuesday. The Vikings have three games left in the regular season against River Rouge Highland Park and a rematch with Robichaud before they get ready for the district tournament starting on June 5. "I hope the kids keep playing at the level they have been," Orr said. "They've been playing together and all they can do is keep getting better."



The Romulus Eagles varsity baseball team is off to a great start with a 6-0 record in the Mega Gold League. Team members include: front row (from left) Lester Hardy, Eric Behnke, William Williams, Keith Haynes, Ron Kreitzer and Dan Brown. In the back row are (from left) assistant coach Tom Hayes, Kyle Wasson, Arthur Hall, Jamar Bird, Ronnie Brown, Philip Roscoe, Brian DeMoissey, junior varsity coach David Cooper and head coach Damian Hull.

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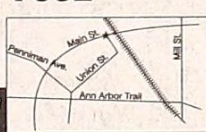
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As the winner of a two-year lease on a new 2004 Mercury Mountaineer, you'll be invited to drive away with this great prize at Steve Mariucci's Celebrity Bocce Ball Tournament at the Palazzo di Bocce, America's First Palace of Bocce.* Plus, you can test-drive a Mountaineer and receive an official bocce rule book with valuable coupons for Palazzo di Bocce.** See your Lincoln Mercury dealer today for entry details, then get your arm limbered up. You could be playing bocce ball with coach Steve Mariucci, and driving away in a new Mountaineer.



2004 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER V-6 CONVENIENCE AWD

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$269

A MONTH/24 MONTHS

\$2,264 CASH DUE AT SIGNING***

AFTER \$5,000 CASH BACK INCLUDING \$1,500 FORD CREDIT CASH AND \$500 A/D/X/Z BONUS CASH†

INCLUDES REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER V-6 CONVENIENCE AWD A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$24,054†

AFTER \$5,000 CASH BACK INCLUDING \$1,500 FORD CREDIT CASH AND \$500 A/D/X/Z BONUS CASH†



2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$434

A MONTH/36 MONTHS

\$2,504 CASH DUE AT SIGNING***

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDING \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH AND \$500 AARP BONUS CASH†

INCLUDES REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE SERIES A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$31,858†

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDING \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH AND \$500 AARP BONUS CASH†



2004 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS GS

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$6,528***

SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. INCLUDES ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

PRE-PAY A TWO-YEAR LEASE FOR

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDING \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH AND \$500 AARP BONUS CASH†

MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS GS A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$16,710†

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDING \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH AND \$500 AARP BONUS CASH†

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hinesparklm.com

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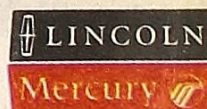
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*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. PURCHASE DOES NOT IMPROVE CHANCES OF WINNING. Winner must be available to attend Steve Mariucci's Bocce Ball Tournament in Lake Orion, MI on 6/9/2004 or prize will be forfeited. Open to legal Michigan residents, 21 or older with a valid driver's license. Void outside of Michigan and where prohibited. Sweepstakes begins on 5/7/2004 and ends on 5/31/2004. Limit one entry per person. See Official Rules available at participating dealers. By entering this sweepstakes, entrants agree to be bound by the Official Rules. **No purchase required. Gift consists of one (1) bocce ball rule book containing coupons for one (1) free bocce ball session lasting one and one half hours in duration at Palazzo di Bocce and one (1) coupon for ten percent (10%) off the price of dinner at the Trattoria di Bocce Restaurant in the Palazzo di Bocce. Residency restrictions apply. Non-transferable. One gift per test drive. One test drive per person, per household. Test-drive required before 5/31/2004. Must be 21 years of age or older and have a valid driver's license. Employees of Ford Motor Company and their immediate families, their dealers, vendors and agencies are not eligible. Lincoln Mercury reserves the right to substitute gifts of equal or greater value if the advertised offer becomes unavailable. Participating dealers only. While supplies last. ***Call 1-888-56-LEASE for details. Payments may vary. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery from dealer stock by 6/1/2004. †Cash back includes Ford Credit Cash for approved Ford Credit contracts. AARP Bonus Cash available for AARP members with proof of membership required. One per member. Offer cannot be combined with any private offers. ‡"Starting At" prices exclude tax title and registration fees. See dealer for their price.